

From the Editor

SOLDIERS celebrates the Army's birthday with a series of articles showcasing our heritage and 226 proud years of service to the nation.

Our cover photo by SPC Paul Disney features SGT Joshua Dukes of The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps. Beth Reece provides an inside look at the unit in "Sounds of the Army's Past."

For sights of the Army's past, SFC Lisa Beth Snyder gives an overview of the Army museum system in "Discovering Army History," and LTC Mike Perry and LTC Greg Lane explore the U.S. Army Military History Institute in "The Army's Memory Bank."

"Spirit of America," by PFC Jennifer Lilly, focuses on the Army's pyrotechnically punctuated, history and entertainment extravaganza that highlights the tradition and legacy of the Army.

June is also birthday month for PS, The Preventative Maintenance Monthly. Dan Andree takes a look at how a cast of comical characters have helped generations of soldiers maintain equipment in "PS: Happy Birthday."

John C. Suttle

Liked Legal Forum

I WAS very pleased to find that March's "Legal Forum" department dealt with investing and looking for a financial planner. Having served for almost 10 years now, I think it's important for the Army as a whole to know about the opportunities that are out there to increase one's financial standing, especially since most soldiers live paycheck to paycheck. Many young soldiers don't know enough about investing and the importance of compounding interest.

I think "Legal Forum" is a good addition to the magazine and a great way to get the word out to soldiers that they need to look towards the future and plan accordingly. You should publish articles like this in every issue; each covering a different topic of investing. Way to go!

*SSG Willie D. Jumper III
Schofield Barracks, Hawaii*

Balkan Rotation Plan

THE Briefings article in the March issue listing units for the Bosnia rotations did not list my unit, the 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. We are aligned with the 116th Cav. Regt. out of Idaho, but we are a separate and extremely proud unit of the Montana National Guard, not Idaho. Our history stretches back over 100 years and we're proud of every one.

*SSG M.D. Miller, MTARNG
via e-mail*

An Army of One

YOUR "Army of One" story in the April issue was right on the money about the duality of meanings in the slogan. I also think the perceptions you described as varying between generations could be best clarified by going all the way back to the first generation of Ameri-

Army Reserve

YOUR April issue signifies many good things about military Reservists. You are helping to educate Americans to the full value of Army Reservists in these turbulent times. The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve helps these volunteer soldiers by supporting a workable relationship between employers and their Guard/Reserve employees. A story in **Soldiers** could help alert all concerned to the issues that exist in ESGR.

*COL Otto Melsa (Ret.)
Memphis, Tenn.*

As it happens, Soldiers is planning a story on ESGR in the near future, possibly in the July issue.

Not Army Reserve

NICE article. Would you please pass on to PV2 Benjamin Hokkanen, however, that he has mistakenly referred to the 814th Engr. Co. from Fort Polk as part of the Army Reserve? The 814th is actually an active-Army bridge company attached to the 46th Engr. Battalion at Fort Polk. With that piece of further information, an important message would come across — no one component of the Army can do it by itself. It took bridge companies from all three components of the Army — active, Guard and Reserve — to bridge the Arkansas River on this exercise.

*COL Richard A. Hoefert
via e-mail*

cans. Throughout their dialog while drafting the Constitution, and in the final text, the Founding Fathers stressed that the freedom of every individual is essential to the success of our democracy. Like the Army of One, our nation's greatness rests on the premise that the whole exceeds the sum of its parts, given the exceptional value of each part.

*Bob Rosenburgh
via e-mail*

YOU spent five pages of print and an additional photo page trying to convince us that the new campaign, "An Army of

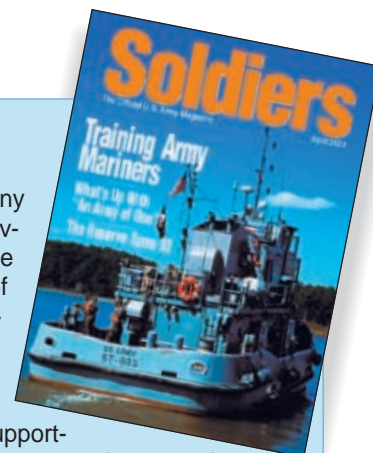
One," makes sense. Well, it still doesn't make sense. I believe any change from a long-running slogan to a new one explains the increase in web hits and calls. Thanks, but I'll just keep on "Being All I Can Be."

*CPT Catheryn K. Houston,
USAR
via e-mail*

Will He Survive?

WHAT a tribute to have two ROTC graduates on the CBS series "Survivor"! I'm sure that all military members wish them well.

I did, however, have a hard



time accepting the photo that was published in **Soldiers**. As a first sergeant using military standards as guidelines, I cannot understand why the photo, which showed the wearing of an earring, was allowed to be used in the article. Doesn't this display contrary teachings to the young soldiers in our commands?

1SG Roy Van Opdorp,
ILARNG
via e-mail

UNLESS my eyes are fading on me, 2LT Nick Brown is wearing a gold earring in his right ear. Are we paying for him to attend Harvard? He needs some serious mentoring, or maybe a good NCO who could square him away.

COL Richard M. Johnson, Ret.
Enterprise, Ala.

HAD 2LT Nick Brown been wearing the earring while in

uniform, on duty on a military installation it certainly would have been unacceptable. However, the Army does allow soldiers to make their own off-duty, out-of-uniform fashion choices. And Paul Kotakis, Army Cadet Command Public Affairs Officer, had this to say regarding the funding of Brown's education:

"As we discussed, LT Brown is currently a USAR asset. I confirmed again this morning that he is assigned to the USAR Control Group for the period of his law school studies. In talking with the USAR folks, I also learned that the assertion that 'we' are paying for his education is incorrect. He has responsibility for the financial obligations of law school."

Looking for Photo

YOUR "Gifts for Hitler" picture on the inside back cover of the

April issue was humorous. Where can I get a copy of it? I want to hang it every Easter.

SPC Nicholas M. Schieffer
Hinesville, Ga.

THERE is a picture near the top of page 46 in the April issue depicting U.S. Army medical personnel in action in France in 1917. I work with the State Medical Detachment in the Nevada Army National Guard. Where could I obtain a copy of that picture for display in our armory?

SFC Kevin Baugh,
via e-mail

THE source for photos used in **Soldiers** is Robert Melhorn, chief of the Electronic Imaging Branch in the Office of the Chief

of Public Affairs. E-mail to: Robert.Melhorn@hqda.army.mil phone: (703) 695-3007 (DSN 225-).

Different URL

AFTER reviewing the story by CW2 Robert Baldi on your website ("Attaché Duty," September 1999 **Soldiers**), I attempted to access the Web page listed in the "How To Join" box. I could not access the site listed, but after some surfing found that the current URL is www.perscom.army.mil/epag/attache.htm. I hope this may be of some help to others who are interested in this information.

SSG J. D. Malmberg
via e-mail

Soldiers is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: Feedback, **Soldiers**, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581, or e-mail: soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.



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